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### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A washing machine is provided which has a structurally reinforced apparatus for accurately sensing a water level. The washing machine includes a housing, a tub installed in the housing, a drum rotatably installed in the tub, and a water level sensing apparatus for sensing a water level in the tub/drum so as to provide an appropriate water level for each washing step. The water level sensing apparatus includes an air chamber installed in communication with the tub. The air chamber stores a predetermined amount such that the water present in the system develops a pressure on the stored air. The water level sensing apparatus also includes a sensor installed at an end of a tube connected to the air chamber which determines a water level by sensing an air pressure in the tube, and a protecting member which prevents disassembly and breakage of the air chamber and the tube during operation of the washing machine.